

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) An applicator for cosmetics which comprises a body obtained by subjecting a compounded rubber to extrusion molding in a given shape, heating a molded rubber to cause vulcanization or crosslinkage therein to provide a molded rubber, and heating the molded rubber to cause vulcanization or crosslinkage therein, and stamping and/or cutting the vulcanized or crosslinked rubber into pieces of a given shape.

2. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said compounded rubber is made of at least two types of compounded rubbers, which are extrusion molded into plural layers integrally combined together.

3. (Currently Amended) The applicator according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said compounded rubber is made of a composition which comprises as a major component a polymer having a polar group.

4. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 3, wherein said polymer having a polar group is NBR wherein a content of acrylonitrile in the NBR polymer is not larger than 30%.

5. (Currently Amended) The applicator according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, wherein the compounded rubber is extrusion molded in a given shape and heated by irradiation with a microwave.

6. (Currently Amended) The applicator according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~Claim 1, wherein said applicator is a sponge puff.

7. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said body is obtained by providing an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide and a blowing agent, adding, to the resulting mixture, 1 to 100 parts by weight of a synthetic silicic acid serving as a reinforcing filler per 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer, heating the resulting compounded rubber as a whole by use of HA heating and UHF heating in combination to cause vulcanization and expansion thereby providing a thick sponge having a homogenous cell structure, passing through press rolls, and cutting the resulting sheet stock into pieces of a given form.

8. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said body is obtained by providing an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide and a blowing agent, adding, to the resulting mixture, 10 to 200 parts by weight of precipitated calcium carbonate having a prismatic particle shape and a serving as a filler per 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer, heating the resulting compounded rubber as a whole by use of HA heating and UHF heating in combination to cause vulcanization and expansion thereby providing a thick sponge having a homogenous cell structure, passing through press rolls, and cutting the resulting sheet stock into pieces of a given form.

9. (Original) The applicator according to Claim 1, wherein said body is obtained by providing an NBR polymer, an organic peroxide and a blowing agent, adding, to the resulting mixture, 1 to 100 parts by weight of a synthetic silicic acid serving as a reinforcing filler and 10 parts by weight to 200 parts by weight of precipitated calcium carbonate having a prismatic particle shape and serving as a filler, each per 100 parts by weight of the NBR polymer, heating the compounded

rubber as a whole by use of HA heating and UHF heating in combination to cause vulcanization and expansion thereby providing a thick sponge having a homogenous cell structure, passing through press rolls, and cutting the resulting sheet stock into pieces of a given form.

10. (Currently Amended) The applicator according to ~~any one of Claims 7 to 9~~Claim 7, wherein said applicator is a sponge puff.